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Commencement

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### Commencement Program: June 10, 2000

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*Southern New England*

*School of Law*



*Commencement*

*June 10, 2000*



*Southern New England*

*School of Law*



*Commencement Program*

*Saturday,  
June 10, 2000*



# **Commencement Program**

## **Processional**

*Pomp & Circumstance No. 1*  
*Sir Edward Elgar*  
*The New England Brass-Guild*

## **Invocation**

## **National Anthem**

## **Welcoming Remarks**

*Margaret D. Xifaras, Esq.*  
*Chair, Board of Trustees*

## **Remarks from the UMass--Dartmouth Chancellor**

*Dr. Jean F. MacCormack*  
*Chancellor*  
*University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth*

## **Remarks from the Chancellor**

*Hon. Francis J. Larkin*  
*Chancellor*  
*Southern New England School of Law*

## **Student Address**

*Kevin P. Whitaker*  
*Class of 2000*  
*Valedictorian*

## **Awarding of the Honorary Degrees and the Reading of the Citation**

### **Hon. George N. Leighton**

*Attorney and Senior Counselor at Law*  
*U. S. District Court Judge (ret.)*

*Francis J. Lynch III, Esq. -- Presenter*



**Hon. John C. Harwood**

*Speaker of the House  
State of Rhode Island and  
Providence Plantations*

*Hon. William A. Dimitri, Jr. -- Presenter*

**Hon. Mark C. Montigny**

*State Senator  
Second Bristol  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

*Anne Marie Maguire, Esq. --Presenter*

**Commencement Address**

**Hon. Nancy Gertner**

*Associate Justice  
U.S. District Court  
Of the District of Massachusetts*

*Margaret D. Xifaras, Esq. -- Presenter*

**Awards**

**Academic Achievement Award**

*Highest Cumulative Grade Point Average in the Course of Study*

*David J. Novick    Fall 1999  
Kevin P. Whitaker    Spring 2000*

**Service Award**

*Dedication and Service to Fellow Students and the Law School*

*John Donahue  
Robert E. Hennelly, Jr.  
Fiore Porreca  
Justin P. Nadeau*



## **Rikki Klieman Advocacy in Scholarship Award**

*Christy L. Johansen*

*Rikki J. Klieman, Esq.--Presenter*

## **Alumni Award**

*Hon. Robert J. Kane  
Associate Justice, Edgartown District Court  
Senior Adjunct Professor of Law  
Southern New England School of Law*

*Roger J. Dugal--Presenter  
Class of 1989*

## **L.A.W. Award**

*Hon. Bettina Borders  
Associate Justice Bristol County Juvenile Court*

## **Balsa Award**

***Black American Law Students Association***

*Guessippina Bonner Academic Achievement Award  
Maurice A. Perry*

*President's Award  
David Aifegha Omiunu*

## **Student Bar Association Amicus Awards**

*Baimba Shek Kamara  
Robert E. Hennelly, Jr.  
Fiore Porreca*

## **West Group Outstanding Achievement Awards Academic Excellence**

*Karyn M. Lowe  
David J. Novick  
Clark R. Whaley  
Kevin P. Whitaker*



## St. Thomas More Society

*Tisha M. Giles*

## Adam Pauley Award

*Catherine R. Ferro*

## Conferral of Earned Degrees

*Dean Robert V. Ward, Jr.*

*Margaret D. Xifaras, Chair, Board of Trustees*

## Degree Candidates

James Anthony Abdu \*  
Christopher M. Abreu \*  
Renée Elyse Alten  
William Thomas Anderson  
Robert J. Andreola, Jr.  
Steven J. Andreoni  
Ferid Balic  
Stacey A. Barton \*  
Christine Anne Bock Rodrigues \*  
Joseph Francisco Botelho †  
Michele L. Capelli †  
Ernest J. Carlucci  
Rhonda F. Cera \*  
Kevin H. Christopher  
Thomas R. Clark \*  
Dee Dee Renee Cole  
James Patrick Connors  
Brian J. Curley \*  
Christopher David Delmonte  
John F. DeMello \*  
Margot desJardins \*\*  
Gregory Vincent DiPaolo  
John Donahue  
Ara Eresian, Jr.  
David P. Esposito †  
Catherine Ronayne Ferro  
Richard John Frankonis, Jr.  
Catherine Ann Fraser  
Kristen Ann Garvey  
Maria Doina Gatej



Nicholas J. Giannone  
Tisha Monique Giles \*  
George T. Glavas  
Ronald Golini  
James T. Griffin  
Shane A. Hall \*  
Edward Patrick Hebert  
Robert E. Hennelly, Jr.  
Kathleen E. Higgins  
William Joseph Huber  
Christy L. Johansen  
MaryAnne Chardo Johnson †  
Guilin Faizon Jolicouer  
Lisa Antonelli Jones  
Baimba Shek Kamara  
Thomas P. Killoran, *Cum Laude*  
Justin M. Kronholm  
Guy A. Larock  
Kevin C. Larson, *Cum Laude*  
Paulo Manuel Louro  
Karyn M. Lowe, *Cum Laude*  
William D. McCormack, *Cum Laude* \*  
Donna A. McMahon  
Kristen Ann Marianetti †  
Jennifer A. Martelli-Russo  
John A. Martins  
Mark V. Maselli  
Stephen James Mastrati \*  
Michael Vincent Mastrobuono  
Scott Lampi Matson  
Mark F. Mikitka  
Gregg Arthur Morin \*  
Richard Patrick Morrison  
Paula Denise Esteves e Motaco  
Madeline Marie Motta  
Sidney A. Murray  
Justin Paul Nadeau  
Vassil N. Nenkov  
Robert S. Nesom \*  
David J. Novick, *Cum Laude* \*  
Chima Augustine Nzenwa  
Kirk William O'Brien  
David Aifegha Omiunu  
Edward F. Parker II  
Joel Samuel Paul  
Paul Christopher Pereira



Maurice A. Perry  
 Maria R. Petracca-Scialla  
 Fiore Porreca  
 John K. Reilly  
 Joseph Patrick Reilly  
 Edward F. Ritchie \*  
 Sean Robbins  
 Sharon Lee Rosenlund  
 David Stephen Rudnick  
 Glenn Francis Russell, Jr.  
 Paul Saccoicca \*  
 Michael Santos  
 Stephen Michael Scialla  
 Anthony A. Senerchia \*  
 Kevin G. Shao  
 Rachel Gilda Bohbot Shapiro  
 Christopher Patrick Sherman  
 Diane Sullivan  
 Jennifer Louise Thyng  
 Albert Edward Todino  
 Angela K. Troccoli †  
 Georgios Tsikalis  
 Joanne Varias †  
 Hayden Alston Wallace  
 Irving I. Wallace III †  
 Clark Remington Whaley, *Cum Laude* \*  
 Amelia A. Wilson  
 Kevin P. Whitaker, *Magna Cum Laude*  
 George K. Yanefski †  
 Stacey Ann Youk-see

Degree conferred May 19, 2000

\*Degree Conferred on December 21, 1999

\*\*Degree Conferred on September 12, 1999

†subject to completion of requirements

## Benediction

## Recessional

A reception for the Graduates, Honorary Degree Recipients, Board of Trustees, Faculty, Family and Friends will be held immediately following the Commencement Exercises.

†This program contains the names of candidates for graduation at this Commencement. Certification is subject to the completion of the requirements.



## Honorary Degree Recipients

- **Hon. Nancy Gertner**, Judge, United States District Court—Nancy Gertner was a top Boston criminal defense and civil rights attorney for more than twenty years before being named to the federal bench in 1994. As an attorney in private practice, she participated in dozens of groundbreaking cases in Massachusetts. A renowned educator and thinker, she has taught at several top law schools for more than fifteen years. Judge Gertner earned her B.A. from Barnard College of Columbia University and her J.D. from Yale Law School.
- **Hon. John B. Harwood**, Speaker, Rhode Island House of Representatives—John Harwood has represented his hometown of Pawtucket, Rhode Island since 1980. He is currently the most powerful elected official in the legislature, serving as Speaker of the House since 1993. An attorney, Harwood is a member of the U.S. Federal Bar, American Bar Association and American Trial Lawyers Association. Harwood earned his B.S. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1974 and his J.D. from Boston College in 1978.
- **Hon. George N. Leighton**, Judge, United States District Court (ret.)—George Leighton, an innovative Federal District Court Judge from the Northern District of Illinois from 1976-87, was the first African-American ever to serve as a Federal Judge in Illinois. A New Bedford native and former judge of state courts in Illinois, he is the former president of the Chicago Branch of the NAACP and founding member of the Chicago law firm of Moore, Ming & Leighton, one of the largest African-American law firms in the United States. Judge Leighton earned his B.A. from Howard University and his LL.B. from Harvard Law School.
- **Hon. Mark C. Montigny**, Senator, Massachusetts General Court—Mark Montigny grew up in New Bedford and has represented his home town as a state Senator from the Second Bristol district since 1993. Currently chairman of the Senate's powerful Ways and Means Committee, Senator Montigny has been a tireless advocate for residents of the South Coast. He earned his B.A. from the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth.



## Awards

- **Hon. Bettina Borders**, Associate Justice, Bristol County Juvenile Court—Bettina Borders has served New Bedford as an attorney specializing in family law, state intervention, custody and children's rights and several other areas of the law. The longtime regional coordinator of the Committee for Public Counsel Services, she was a solo practitioner and founding partner of two New Bedford law firms after serving as a staff attorney for the Southeastern Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation. Judge Borders received her B.A. from Goddard College, her M.A. from Columbia University and her J.D. from the University of Connecticut.
- **Rikki J. Klieman, Esq.**—In 1983, when she was only a few years out of law school, Rikki Klieman was named one of the five most outstanding women trial lawyers in America by *Time Magazine*. An anchor and commentator at the Courtroom Television Network in New York since 1994, she has analyzed dozens of legal proceedings throughout the country. She remains Of Counsel to the Boston law firm of Klieman, Schindler and Gross. A member of the adjunct faculty at Columbia Law School, Attorney Klieman earned her B.A. from Northwestern University and her J.D. from Boston University School of Law.



**Southern New England School of Law  
Board of Trustees**

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**Francis J. Lynch III, Esq.**  
**Ann Marie Maguire, Esq.**  
**Eugene C. Mollicone, Esq. '89**  
**Angelo S. Rotella, Esq. '89**  
**Hon. Donald P. Ryan**  
**Ralph Sacco, Jr. '89**  
**Sumner J. Waring, Jr.**

**Faculty**

**Philip E. Cleary, Professor of Law**  
**Ralph D. Clifford, Associate Professor of Law**  
**Cynthia M. Conward, Associate Professor of Law**  
**Dwight G. Duncan, Associate Professor of Law**  
**Michael G. Hillinger, Associate Dean**  
**and Associate Professor of Law**  
**Irene M. Scharf, Associate Professor of Law**  
**Justine A. Dunlap, Associate Professor of Law**  
**Frances Howell Rudko, Associate Professor of Law**  
**Marguerite I. Most, Assistant Professor of Law**  
**and Director of the Law Library**



## **Adjunct Faculty**

*Hon. George Jacobs, Senior Adjunct Professor of Law*

*Hon. Robert J. Kane, Senior Adjunct Professor of Law*

*Henry M. Arruda, Adjunct Professor of Law*

*Ana Gomez-Blanchfield, Senior Adjunct Professor of Law*

*Ronald A. Cavallaro, Senior Adjunct Professor of Law*

*Francis J. Clark, Senior Adjunct Professor of Law*

*Elspher B. Cypher, Senior Adjunct Professor of Law*

*Francis A. DiLuna, Senior Adjunct Professor of Law*

*James Janda, Adjunct Professor of Law*

*Jeffrey P. Medeiros, Senior Adjunct Professor of Law*

*David P. Mullen, Senior Adjunct Professor of Law*

*George F. Phelan, Senior Adjunct Professor of Law*

*Dr. Andrew K. Spongberg, Senior Adjunct Professor of Law*

*District Attorney Paul F. Walsh, Senior Adjunct Professor of Law*

## **Commencement Marshal**

*Dwight G. Duncan, Associate Professor of Law*

## **Herald**

*Michael G. Hillinger, Associate Dean*

## **Special Thanks to the Following:**

Sandra Dennis  
Donna Desirey  
Joseph Heery  
Kimberly Hogan  
Dolly Beaudoin  
Irene Lafaille  
Jennifer Harrington  
Robert Eagan  
David Fatula  
Patrick Roth

Garlington Florists  
Fiore Porreca  
Katie Gruca  
The Secret Garden of Rehoboth  
Parma Gourmet  
Reverend Christina Gruca  
Cheryl Bernard  
Annette Carreiro  
Ruth Ferreira

**Graduation arrangements and program design: Carol Vidal**